

HURRICANE IN PORTO RICO.

WIND WRECKS 150 HOUSES NEAR SAN JUAN—SOME LIVES LOST.

Railway Train Blown Off the Track—Cavalry Barracks, Signal Station and Custom House at San Juan Wrecked—Ships in Ponce Harbor Driven Ashore—Great Damage in Other Parts of the Island.

Special Cable Despatch to The S. C.

SAN JUAN DE PORTO RICO, Aug. 9.—The Weather Bureau here hoisted hurricane signals at noon on Monday. At 2 o'clock on Tuesday morning the storm broke with great force, and at 8:45 o'clock the wind was blowing at the rate of 100 miles an hour, having reached its maximum velocity at that hour.

A large number of trees were torn up by the roots, and a railway train was blown off the tracks. The houses and other buildings, especially dwellings in the town of Santures, a residence suburb, were wrecked. One hundred and fifty frame houses along the boulevard leading to the capital were destroyed. Within the walls of the city no damage was done beyond the destruction of one large brick building.

Telegraph wires are down, and some of the telegraph stations are in ruins. It is known that Playa de Ponce is under water. The custom-house there was wrecked and its contents wrecked. All the vessels in Ponce harbor are reported to be ashore. Owing to the interruption in the telegraph service there

Only the outer edge of the hurricane touched San Juan. Its full force was expected along the southern coast of the island. Seven natives were drowned in the harbor here.

Following is the hurricane record here: July, 1515; August, 1527; August 21, 1615; August 22, 1772, the most violent one known here; September 4, 1896; September 21, 1819; October 29, 1867, and August 4, 1898.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—A dispatch was received at the Navy Department this afternoon from the commanding officer of the naval station at San Juan, Porto Rico, stating that extensive damage was done to the station yesterday by the hurricane which swept over the West Indies. The damage to the naval station is estimated at about \$2,000, and there was also considerable loss to wharves and shipping in the harbor.

Information of a terrible hurricane in Porto Rico was received at the War Department this evening in two cablegrams from army officers

SAN JUAN, Aug. 6.—Terrible hurricane; Cavalry barracks destroyed; storehouses and other buildings damaged; iron roofing and lumber required.

"Cyclone just passing over island, prostrated telegraph and telephone lines, several killed; my quarters wrecked and signal barracks partially demolished; many other public buildings, likewise hundreds of native houses destroyed; centre and south probably fared worse.

THREATS REACH DREYFUS.
The Police, However, Again Take Strict Measures to Protect Him.
[Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.
PARIS, Aug. 9.—The Nationalist newspapers are still relying sanguinely upon Gen. Mer-

er's ability to confound Drevfus and his friends. They declare that Mercier possesses convincing documents, which he always carries on his person during the day and places under his pillow at night. They profess to fear that he will be murdered, and assert that the greatest precautions have been taken to prevent his assassination at Rennes. Until he left Paris his wife personally prepared all his

A friend of Gen. Mercler's is represented as saying that he was greatly perturbed over the question whether he would reveal at Rennes what he refused to disclose before the Court of Cassation. He consulted with M. de Mahy, a member of the Chamber of Deputies, in whose judgment he places implicit reliance, and it was upon his advice that he resolved to dis-

Threats are reaching Dreyfus daily by mail. This fact, and the hostile cries which greeted the prisoner while he was on his way from the Lycée to the prison, after the session of the court martial on Tuesday, are regarded here as the reasons for the renewal of the measures taken for his defence. After the court began

to protect the prisoner. After the court began its session on Wednesday the restrictions were slightly relaxed, but when a few sightseers collected during the morning they were resumed.

when the court separated the protesters from the crowd. The protesters were so rigidly enforced that people standing in the doorways of their own houses within the cleared area were ordered inside. If any protested the police thrust them inside and slammed the doors. Even postmen delivering letters within the restricted area were each accompanied by a gendarme. This excited the ridicule of the residents.

LONDON, Aug. 10.—The Rennes correspondent of the *Standard* says he learns from a person who was present at the secret session of

the court-martial, that some of the documents in the secret dossier were written in the German language. Several discussions arose as to the precise meaning of certain sentences, and Dreyfus, from his intimate knowledge of the language, ably explained them.

The same informant says that Dreyfus is now more hopeful than ever. His friends, however, are anxious concerning his health.

There is, of course, a tremendous strain on his nerves and he hardly sleeps at all. He is unable to retain any but the lightest food, chiefly eggs and milk. His strong will alone supports him. He eagerly anticipates his confrontation with Gen. Meisler.

The Paris correspondent of the *Daily News* has received a letter from a barrister at Rennes quoting Dreyfus as telling his counsel that he

had the greatest difficulty on the opening day of his trial to keep down the lump that was constantly in his throat and to withstand the rushes of blood to his heart. He was often tempted from agony to cry aloud. If he had given way to his feelings in the least he must have utterly collapsed.

RENKES, AUG. 15.—The L. crews d crowls in the vicinity of H. Lyce in morning caused the rigorous arrangements enforced on Monday for the transfer of Dreyfus from the prison to the court room to be again adopted.

JOHN H. KOSER DROWNED.

Small Boat in which He was Rowing on the Lake at Parksville, N. J., Capsized.

George J. Coleman, of 63 West 134th street, received a telegram yesterday from Mrs.

George W. Grote, of 102 West 132nd street, who is staying at Parkville, Sullivan county, announcing the drowning there of her brother, John H. Koster. Mr. Koster, the telegram said, went out rowing on the lake yesterday and his boat capsized. His body was not recovered. Mr. Koster was 24 years old. He lived with his sister in this city and was in the city last week with relatives.

city and was in the pork business with George W. Grote, his brother-in-law. He took an active part in religious and social affairs in Harlem.